

In the Specification:

Please amend paragraph [0073] as follows:

[0073] FIGS. 18a, b, c show another particularly simple alternative in the form of yet another embodiment. An outer stationary steering column tube 74 carries the stationary airbag 12 on its upper end. A special steering wheel 1 with a gearing 75 is supported on the end of the stationary steering column tube 74. When the steering wheel 1 is turned, the gearing 75 drives a gearwheel 76, disposed upon a shaft 77, that turns perpendicular to the gearing 75 of the steering wheel 1. The gearwheel 76 embodiments and their illustrations in the figures, and is able to combine these variations, modifications, substitutions and combinations with that person's professional expertise and the state of the art. It is possible, in particular, to combine all individual characteristics and possible designs of the invention as well as the embodiments thereof.

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~The invention relates to an airbag assembly comprising a mechanism for a stationary driver's airbag, and more particularly an airbag that does not rotate with [[the]] rotation of the steering wheel. The airbag assembly is configured in such a way that its~~ has a supporting mechanism ~~is situated~~ inside the steering column. ~~The invention also relates to, including a gear coupling for upper and lower steering shafts, and an operating method for an airbag assembly of this type. The lower shaft rotates with the steering wheel, and is connected to the steering wheel with a transmission operative to change a rotational ratio based on the speed of the vehicle, or a rotational angle of the steering wheel.~~